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TI - PRINTING SYSTEM
IN - MARUYAMA YOSHIKO
PA - RICOH KK
IC - G06F3/12 ; B41J29/38 ; G03G21/02 ; G03G21/00 ; G06F13/00

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TI - Print system for printer connected via network - selects cheapest image output device, based on result of fee calculation unit and delivers printing job by controller

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AB - JP11184655 NOVELTY - When printing job is to be performed by image devices, printing fee for every image output device is calculated by calculating unit (25a). A selection unit (23) selects cheapest image output device, based on result of calculation unit. Main controller (26) delivers printing job to selected device.
DETAILED DESCRIPTION - A calculating unit calculates printing fee for image output devices, based on printing job and account information of image output devices stored in information unit (25b).
- USE - For printers connected via network.
- ADVANTAGE - Even when user does not know about billing information, cost of printing is saved. DESCRIPTION OF DRAWING(S) - The figure shows the functional block diagram of the print system. (23) Selection unit; (25a) Fee calculation unit; (25b) Information unit; (26) Main controller.
- (Dwg.2/7)

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TI - PRINTING SYSTEM

AB - PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To automatically select an image output device of lower printing charge when plural image output devices can be used.

- SOLUTION: In the printing system composed of a terminal equipment, plural image output devices for outputting image or character information from the terminal equipment and a print server 2 connected through a network to the terminal equipment and the image output devices, and provided with a reception part 21 for receiving a print job sent from terminal equipment1 and a main control part 26 for distributing the print job to any suitable image output device based on print conditions contained in the received print job, the print server 2 is provided with a charging information part 25b for holding charging managing information related to the respective image output devices, a charge calculating part 25a for calculating the printing charges based on the charging managing information and the print conditions of the print job and a device selecting part 23 for calculating the printing charges for each image output device and selecting the image output device of the lowest printing charges based on the result and the main control part 26 distributes the print job to the image output device selected by the device selecting part 23.

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